

JPW over?

Terrorist Plot by Rightist

10/20/76

By Joanne Omand

Washington Post Foreign Service

CARACAS, Venezuela, Oct. 19—Venezuelan police have uncovered what they believe to be wide-ranging plans by right-wing Cuban exiles to carry out terrorist attacks in the United States and six other nations, according to a newspaper report here.

The respected Caracas newspaper El Nacional said today that the alleged terrorist acts by anti-Castro agents included the killing of Orlando Letelier, the former Chilean ambassador to the United States, in Washington last month, and the firebombing of a Cuban airliner off Barbados Oct. 6. The plane crash killed 78 persons.

Venezuelan police have already ar- including right-wing Cuban exile leader Orlando Bosch, in connection with the Cuban plane crash. At least 14 persons have been arrested by Venezuelan security agents and about 30 other Cuban refugees called in for questioning, according to United Press International.

(In Washington, sources close to the investigation of the bombing death of former Ambassador Letelier have said that Bosch is wanted for questioning. Bosch is now, however, regarded at this time as a target of the Letelier investigation, the sources said.)

El Nacional said that the rightist

Cuban terrorist plans were discovered in a raid on a private home in Caracas during the investigation of the Cuban plane crash. The reported terrorist acts were planned to take place in the United States, Venezuela, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Guyana, Panama and Colombia, the newspaper said. Past acts related to these plans included the bombing of Guyana's consulate in Trinidad and Tobago, according to the newspaper account.

The wide-ranging terrorist plans reported by El Nacional today were the latest development in a broad investigation in several nations of the Letelier killing, the Cuban plane crash and other incidents.

Letelier, a former ambassador to Washington foreign minister and minister of defense in the government of the late Chilean President Salvador Allende, died Sept. 21 when a bomb exploded beneath his car as he drove along Washington's Embassy Row.

[In Washington, sources close to the Letelier investigation said Tuesday that they expect Bosch to be returned to the United States and to be questioned about Letelier's death. A State Department source said the United States is urging Venezuela to return him informally as an undesirable alien rather than to go through formal extradition procedures.

[Bosch is the leader of a rightist



ORLANDO BOSCH
... detained in Venezuela

anti-Castro umbrella group known as the Coordination of United Revolutionary Organizations. He is wanted in Miami, Fla., for a parole violation stemming from his 1963 conviction for attacks on Polish and other foreign ships.]

THE WASHI

Cuban Exiles Seen

The Caracas newspaper El Nacional has previously reported that Cuban exiles arrested in Caracas have implicated two brothers—identified only as the "Novos"—in the Letelier killing. (The paper's reference was apparently to Ignacio and Guillermo Novo, who were indicted in 1965 on charges of firing a bazooka at the United Nations. The indictments were later quashed on the ground that their constitutional rights were violated when confessions were taken from them. Guillermo Novo was convicted in 1974 in connection with a 1969 bombing incident and sentenced to 6 months' imprisonment and 5 years' probation. No more could be learned of Ignacio Novo.)

In Caracas this week, a high government source disclosed apparent links between the present Chilean military junta and the Cuban exile community in Venezuela. Critics of the Chilean government have accused it of taking part in the Letelier killing. Chilean officials have denied any link to Letelier's death and denounced his murder.

The Venezuelan government source said that the Chilean government has helped finance activities by rightist Cuban exiles against the Cuban government. Minister Fidel Castro. "We've known it for years, but

there's no way to do anything about it," the source said.

This and other sources also reported that Bosch was among several Cubans who regularly made trips to Santiago, Chile. A Venezuelan journalist has letters written to him by Bosch last January. The letters bear return addresses of apartments known to be used for guest of the Chilean government.

Authorities in Trinidad have detained two suspects, Hernan Ricardo Lozano and Freddy Lugo, in connection with the Cuban plane crash. According to information reaching here from Trinidad, Ricardo was carrying an address book listing the phone numbers of the U.S. ambassador and an FBI agent stationed at the U.S. embassy here. A U.S. embassy spokesman said the embassy did not know why Ricardo had the phone numbers.

(The Institute for Policy Studies, a Washington-based, leftist "think tank" where Letelier worked until his death, reported Monday that it had been told by the FBI that FBI agents were flying to Venezuela in connection with the investigation. Sources close to the investigation and the Institute both said Tuesday however that no FBI agents would fly to Venezuela. Instead, the sources said, the FBI agent stationed in Caracas as the embassy's legal attache would help pursue the investigation.)